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PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA SECRETARIAT

NOTIFICATION

The 10th November, 2021

No. 35-PLA-2021/69.-The Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets (Amendment) Bill, 2021 is hereby published for general information under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly):-

Bill No.35-PLA-2021

THE PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKETS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2021

A

BILL

further to amend the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1961.

BE it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Punjab in the Seventy-second Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. (1) This Act may be called the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets (Amendment) Act, 2021. Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on and with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

(4058)

Amendment of section 2 of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.	<p>2. In the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1961 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 2,-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) clause (9) shall be omitted; (ii) in clause (14), the words "or a person licenced under this Act" shall be omitted; (iii) in clause (19), the words "and private market yard" shall be omitted; (iv) in clause (20), the words "including the marketing under contract farming" shall be omitted; (v) clauses (29) and (30) shall be omitted; (vi) for clause (33), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:- <p>"(33) "producer and consumer market yard" means an enclosure, building or locality in the notified market area, owned and operated by the Market Committee;"</p> (vii) in clause (34), the words and sign "by a group of producers, Farmer Producer Organization, Farmer Agri. Business Consortium, Farmer Producer Company or" shall be omitted; (viii) clause (35) shall be omitted; (ix) in clause (40), the words "or special purpose vehicle or company" shall be omitted; and (x) in clause (41), after the word "Agriculture", the words "and Farmers Welfare" shall be inserted.
Amendment of section 7 of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.	<p>3. In the principal Act, in section 7,-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) in sub-section (1), the words "and one or more private market yards" shall be omitted; and (ii) in sub-section (2), the words "and one or more private market yards" shall be omitted.
Amendment of section 7-B of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.	<p>4. In the principal Act, in section 7-B, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely-</p> <p>"(2) Such special market yards may be managed directly by the Board."</p>

5.	In the principal Act, section 7-C shall be omitted.	Omission of section 7-C of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.
6.	In the principal Act, in section 7-D, the words and signs "any person or a group of producers or" and ",as the case may be," shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 7-D of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.
7.	In the principal Act, in section 7-E, the words "a group of producers or Farmer Producer Organisation or Farmer Agri. business Consortium or Farmer Producer Company or" shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 7-E of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.
8.	In the principal Act, in section 7-F, for the words "any person", the words "the Board" shall be substituted and the proviso thereto shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 7-F of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.
9.	In the principal Act, section 7-H shall be omitted.	Omission of section 7-H of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.
10.	In the principal Act, section 10-B and section 10-C shall be omitted.	Omission of sections 10-B and 10-C of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.
11.	In the principal Act, in section 23, sub-sections (4) and (5) shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 23 of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.
12.	In the principal Act, in section 26, in clause (xx), the words "or through public private partnership" shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 26 of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.
13.	In the principal Act, section 27-A shall be omitted.	Omission of section 27 –A of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.
14.	In the principal Act, in section 28, in clause (xx), the words "or through public private partnership" shall be omitted.	Amendment of section 28 of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.

- 15.** In the principal Act, in section 43, in sub-section (2),-
- (i) in clause (xxxviii), the words and sign "private market yard," shall be omitted; and
 - (ii) clause (xliii) shall be omitted.
- Amendment of section 43 of Punjab Act 23 of 1961.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

It is a recognised fact that farmers of Punjab have made substantial contribution to the food security of the nation over the past five decades. Majority of the farmers in Punjab are small and marginal and they survive on subsistence farming with support for inputs and other services from government and private agencies, including marketing of their produce.

The farmers of Punjab have so far been able to get the Minimum Support Price for wheat and paddy crops under a marketing arrangement that is regulated and stabilised under the Punjab Agriculture Produce Markets Act 1961.

For sustainable agricultural development, and to secure the livelihood of the persons engaged in agriculture in the state, it is necessary to continue to protect farmers' interest in the agriculture markets.

Certain amendments, undertaken over the years, to the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets, Act 1961, have introduced several vulnerabilities and distortions to the grave detriment and prejudice of agriculture and communities associated therewith.

It is the responsibility of the State to restore the safeguards in the marketing of agricultural produce and to eliminate malpractices prevalent in the trade in the State of Punjab and thereby to protect the interest of farmers, farm labourers and those engaged in ancillary and incidental activities through the regulatory structure under the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets, Act 1961.

To introduce 'THE PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKETS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021' will be beneficial as above.

RANDEEP SINGH NABHA
Agriculture Minister, Punjab.

CHANDIGARH
THE 10TH NOVEMBER, 2021

SURINDER PAL,
SECRETARY.

N.B. - The above Bill was published in the Punjab Government Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 10th November, 2021 under the proviso to rule 121 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha (Punjab Legislative Assembly).